SHRI R. VELU: Sir, for this particular examination, there were 8,366 vacancies. For that, we had received 19 lakh-odd applications.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How may applications?

SHRI R. VELU: Sir, we had received 19,22,000 applications. Out of that, 15,10,000 applicants were found eligible. We had divided it into three phases. For the first phase, we have already conducted the examination on 12.2.2006, in which 97,588 candidates appeared; out of 5,12,000 applicants to whom we had sent call letters. For the second phase of examination on 26.2.2006, this episode happened in this phase, we had sent call letters to 4.85 lakh candidates; out of which, 1,12,985 candidates appeared. I really share the concern of hon. Member that those candidates were poor people who had come all the way to prepare and write the examination. But, this was an exceptional situation in which we cannot help. In fact,-this is just like a man-made disaster. The moment we find exactly what happened and where this has gone wrong, Sir, we would set it right.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Outcome Budget (2006-07) and Performance Budget (2005-06) of the Department of Food and Public Distribution

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

(i) Outcome Budget for the year 2006-07 of the Department of Food and Public Distribution in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3948/06] (ii) Performance Budget for the year 2005-06 of the Department of Food and Public Distribution in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3950/06]

Notification of the Ministry of Railways

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 30 of the Railway Claims Tribunal Act, 1987, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry